alleged Applicant's admitted prior art with Microsoft. In this manner, to be a proper § 103 rejection, there must be some suggestion, either in the references themselves or at least alleged to be present in the general level of skill in the art, to combine the references. M.P.E.P. § 2143. This requirement has not been met, as the Examiner fails to cite language from either reference or at least allege the suggestion or motivation to be present in the general level of skill in the art. It is noted that "rarely, however, will the skill in the art component operate to supply missing knowledge or prior art to reach an obviousness judgment." Al-Site Corp. v. VSI Int'l, Inc., 50 U.S.P.Q.2d 1161, 1171 (Fed. Cir. 1999). Thus, for this additional reason, claims 34 and 44 overcome the § 103 rejections.

Claims 35-43 and 45-51 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from allowable claims.

Regarding dependent claims 36-43 and 45-51, the Examiner takes Official Notice in supplying these additional claim limitations, rather than citing references to support the § 103 rejections. However, each Official Notice taken by the Examiner is hereby challenged pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 2144.03. Therefore, Applicant requests a reference to support each Official Notice. If any of these rejections are based on the personal knowledge of the Examiner, then Applicant requests the Examiner to supply an affidavit attesting to the Examiner's personal knowledge. M.P.E.P. § 2144.03. Otherwise without this showing, withdrawal of the § 103 rejections of these claims is requested for this additional reason.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the § 103 rejections and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (MCT.0126US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 24, 2002

Fred G. Pruner, Jr. Registration No. 40,779 TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.

(713) 468-8880 [Phone]/(713) 468-8883 [Fax]